

U.S. Department of Justice

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For Immediate Release:

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EVENT: Guilty Plea

Defendant: Milton "Butch" Jones

DRUG RING LEADER MILTON "BUTCH" JONES PLEADS GUILTY TO FEDERAL DRUG VIOLATION

Milton "Butch" Jones pleaded guilty today to federal drug charges involving two homicides, United States Attorney Stephen J. Murphy announced today. Jones, 50, of Detroit, Michigan, entered the guilty plea in United States District Court before Judge John Corbett O'Meara.

The information presented to the court at the time of the plea showed that between 1995 and 2001, Jones supervised the activities of at least five individuals in a series of federal narcotics violations that included the distribution of at least 5 kilograms of cocaine and quantities of marijuana at several locations in the 3700 block of Monterey Street in Detroit. In addition to the narcotic distribution activities on Monterey Street, which the participant referred to collectively as the "Dog Pound," the locations were also utilized to plan the robberies, kidnaping and intentional killings of rival drug traffickers and their associates. These activities included the murders of Mark Grice, and Antoine Carruthers by at least two other participants acting in concert with Jones. Under the terms of the plea agreement, Jones has agreed to cooperate fully with federal authorities, and in exchange for this cooperation, the government will

recommend a period of incarceration of 30 years, which is a downward departure from an anticipated sentence of life imprisonment which was calculated under the sentencing guidelines. If the guilty plea is accepted at the time of sentencing, the death penalty notice will be withdrawn.

"Violent federal narcotics violations are some of the most serious felonies that we prosecute in this office," said United States Attorney Murphy.

A sentencing hearing was set by Judge O'Meara for April 6, 2006.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorneys William Sauget and Regina McCullough.